GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5672
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2002
AMENDMENT IN PRASAR BHARATI ACT, 1990
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prasar Bharati can be taxed;

(b) whether there is any proposal to amend the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 in order to tax the Prasar Bharati;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Prasar Bharati Corporation is entirely sustained by the Government; and

(e) if so, whether the proposal for taxing Prasar Bharati will only meet the academic satisfaction?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a): Under Section 22 of Prasar Bharati Act, 1990, Prasar Bharati isexempted from income tax or any other tax in respect of any income, profit or gain, accruing or arising out of the Fund of the Corporation or any amount received by them.

(b) & (c): In the Union Budget of 2002-03, it has been proposed to withdraw the tax exemption given to Prasar Bharati.

(d) & (e): No Sir. However, Prasar Bharati is predominantly funded (to the extent of approximately 60% to 70%) by the Government.